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PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.

UNITED STATES.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT McKINLEY.

On September 14, President William McKinley died, the cause of death being a gunshot wound of the abdomen received one week before at the hands of an assassin. He was buried September 19, at Canton, Ohio.

It is fitting to here record the death of the Chief Executive of the Nation, under whose general oversight the affairs of this Bureau and the Department to which it belongs have been conducted, and under whose special authorization some of its most important transactions have been performed.

To the admiration and love for President McKinley, inspired by his statesmanship, his manhood, and personal qualities, there should be added a just appreciation of his prompt response to requests for action in matters pertaining to the public health.

It is recalled that at the close of the Spanish-American war he immediately provided by Executive order for the necessary quarantine restraints in Cuba and Porto Rico and subsequently in the Philippines. Later he gave his support to the measures put in operation by the Treasury Department to insure safety from importation of disease with the returning troops from Cuba; and in 1899 when the yellow fever appeared in the National Soldiers' Home near Hampton, Va., his solicitude both for the public safety and for the 3,000 veterans of the civil war who were the inmates of that institution was such that he requested and received daily from this Bureau a report stating the progress of the disease and the success of the measures being taken to prevent its spread. He has promptly approved the detail of medical officers to serve in the offices of the United States consulates at many foreign ports, giving them a status which could only be secured by the President's signature.

He has approved of special commissioners to investigate special diseases.

In the effort to establish a sanatorium for the tuberculous patients of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service, founded and now conducted not only for the benefit of the patients themselves, but in the interest of the public health, President McKinley, by Executive order, on request of the Secretary of the Treasury, promptly set aside the former military

163 214

reservation at Fort Stanton, N. Mex., for this avowed purpose, thus indicating his interest and approval of the measures towards the suppression of this contagious disease.

In these matters, as in all others, our deceased President manifested the high executive qualities and sound sympathetic judgment which will cause his memory to live in the respect and affection of the people.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Influenza in Georgetown, S. C.

GEORGETOWN, S. C., September 9, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that there exists in this city a mild form of influenza, which was first considered as hay fever, in consideration of the present rice harvest season, but which must be now reported as above stated after careful investigation. The disease can hardly be said to be epidemic, but nearly so. The causation or source of infection has not yet been discovered.

Respectfully,

C. WILLIAMS BAILEY, Acting Assistant Surgeon, U.S. M. H. S.

No cases of smallpox in St. Louis for the week ended September 8, 1901.

St. Louis, Mo., September 10, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to report that there were no new cases of small-pox and no deaths in this city for the week ended September 8, 1901.

Respectfully,

JAMES M. GASSAWAY, Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Command.

End of smallpox in Chester, Pa.

CHESTER, PA., September 13, 1901.

SIR: Our smallpox outbreak is seemingly under control, no cases having been reported for twenty-three days. The following is the report to date, since May 9: Total cases, 85; deaths, 4.

Respectfully,

S. V. HOOPMAN, President Board of Health.

Arrival at Reedy Island Quarantine of vessels from West Indian and South American ports.

REEDY ISLAND QUARANTINE, via Port Penn, Del., September 8, 1901.

SIR: Through the medical officer in command of national quarantine service on Delaware River and Bay, I have the honor to report the arrival at this station of the following vessels:

September 3, 1901, American schooner St. Croix, from Baracoa, with cocoanuts; no passengers; bill of health signed by Acting Asst. Surg. M. Lores Llorens. American tug Cuba and barges Havana and Sagua, from Havana, in ballast; no passengers; bill of health signed by Surgeon Glennan.

September 5, 1901, British steamship *Kestor*, from Martinique via Santiago, with ore; no passengers; bill of health signed by Assistant Surgeon Von Ezdorf.

Respectfully,

T. F. RICHARDSON,

Assistant Surgeon, U.S. M. H.S., In Command.